Claims

- 1. Procedure for the collection of free methane gas from the sea bottom, characterized by means of that, in a first operation takes place the free methane collection from the sea bottom and it is directed up wards, to a running section of methane gas together with sea water and forms a mixture of methane gas and sea water. The displacement of mixture is being done under the form of a current tube until a room in which takes place the separation phase, in which the mixture overflows, at an inferior sea level, where the pressure is smaller then that from the sea bottom and where takes place a distribution/gravitational spreading of it on a big surface, on which the running is done at a lower pressure, to permit the separation of methane gas from water, the humid methane gas being collected at the superior part of the room, and the sea water freely running to an inferior level from where, in the following operation, is sucked and evacuated back in the sea to ensure the required level of difference for mixture's rising, and in the following operation the humid methane gas, captured at the superior part of the room, being sucked to an other room, where it is cooled to produce the condensation of last sea water fraction, operation after which is obtained sea water in liquid state, which is collected and then is evacuated and dry methane gas, in the following operation, proceeds to the cooling of this gas at a required temperature for it to pass in the liquid state.
- 2. Procedure for the collection of free methane gas from the sea bottom, in an other version of realization, characterized by means of that, in a first operation, the humid methane gas brought to the sea surface, is cooled in a room by bringing it in contact with cool methane gas and by mixing it with that, due to the temperature lowering takes place the condensation of the last fraction of sea water vapors and obtaining of the dry methane gas, the operation followed by its compression in a first step, up to a certain pressure and temperature, after which, in an other operation, is cooled at the seawater temperature, after which takes place a second step of compression followed by a new cooling at the sea water temperature and of the third step of compression, an a last operation the methane gas is discharged followed by this last compression and

14

sent towards a room where, after the lamination followed by an adiabatic expansion passes from the gaseous phase into the liquid phase. In parallel with the above operation takes place an other process in which part from compressed methane gas in first step is taken for producing the suction of liquid methane obtained, according to the last operation, sucktion after which the compressed and warm methane gas from the first step of compression is mixed with the liquid methane and is discharged into a room in which takes place a first cooling of methane gas arrived as a result of its water separation operation.

- 3. Installation for free methane gas collection from the sea bottom, characterized by means of that, in a first realization operation, is constituted from some guiding arms A in a crosswise position, on which are sitting an intermediary platform B, destined to support some electrical reversible trolleys **D** and **E** used for displacement on vertical and radial direction of a flexible or telescopic conduit 21 and of some collectors K of some electrical reversible and double trolleys F with the help of which some separators L and a flexible conduit 50 can be driven on a radial direction, and conduit 50 can be driven on radial direction, and conduit 50 is kept in its horizontal position by some floating caissons 51 as well and of some electrical reversible and double trolleys G used to modify the position of some lateral anchors 7 and an inferior platform C destined for supporting together with platform B of components of a technological line **H** or **Q** and a superior platform **6** for alight or take-off of helicopter, some sloping portion of arms A serving for installing mentioned platforms B, C and 6 and the superior ends of them being rigidly assembled and supporting a hoist 4 for stiffing of a central anchor 5.
- 4. Apparatus for free methane gas collection from the sea bottom, according to the claim 2, characterized by means of that, under of arm A is placed a separator L connected at its inferior part through a conduit 21 to the collector K and on platform B and C are placed accordingly the separators L and connected with them by intermediary of flexible conduit 50 the mentioned technological lines H or Q.
- 5. Apparatus for collection of free methane gas from the sea bottom, according to the claim 2 characterized by means of that, the guiding arms A are provided with some horizontal portions 1 supported by some floating casings 2, at the exterior ends of

- each from arms A being located some propellers 8, 9, 10 and 11 so that at theirs putting in operation to produce a couple which to rotate the apparatus, according to the invention, a round a vertical axis, materialized by rope of central anchor 5, the stiffness of mentioned arms A being done with the help of some ropes 12 stretched between the exterior ends of horizontal portion 1.
- 6. Apparatus for collection of free methane gas from the sea bottom, according to the claim 2, characterized by means of that the platform **B** and **C** have an octagonal form are provided with some openings **a** and respectively **b**.
- 7. Apparatus for collection of free methane gas from the sea bottom, according to the claim 2, characterized by means of that, each from water separators L is provided with a parallelepiped body 39 closed at its superior part with a cover 40 and sitting on a platform 45 supported by some floating cassias 46, in interior being positioned an horizontal plate 44 which delimits some rooms c and d and on which are installed a sleeve for overflow 43 connected at its inferior end with conduit 21 and some guiding tubes 52 through which vertically is running the ropes 22 and 26 through which are supported conduit 21 and a collector K, and at superior part of body 39 being installed some screens 41 and 42, on the same platform 45 being positioned and some pumps 47, and the connection of separator L is done by some ropes 48. The positioning of collector K close to the sea bottom is done with some legs 49.
- 8. Apparatus for collection of free methane gas from the sea bottom, according to the claim 2, characterized by means of that, each form the technological lines is provided with an humidity extractor M connected at its base with conduit 50 and from which is eliminated the condense from the methane gas, and at superior part by the conduit 60 the dry methane gas passes towards a methane gas liquidifier N from which is running, in the liquid state, through conduit 66 in a storage tank O, a nitrogen-compressor 70 discharging the nitrogen gas through the expanded valve f towards a liquid nitrogen tank P from where the nitrogen is running towards some serpentines 62 and 55 of liquefactor N and respectively extractor M t urbocompressor 70 being driven by a gas turbine 71 which is driving also an electric generator °4.
- 9. Apparatus for collection of free methane gas from the sea bottom, according to the claim 2, characterized by means of that, the electrical reversible trolleys **D**, **E**, **F** and

- G are provided with some ropes 13, 14, 22, 26, 31 and 36 supported and guided with the help of some rolls 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34 and 35 and of a block of rolls J.
- 10. Apparatus for collection of free methane gas from the sea bottom, characterized by means of that, in an other version of realization, is provided with a technological line Q equipped with an extractor of humidity R connected through conduit 53 to the separator L situated on platform C and connected through a conduit 86 at some turbocompressor S, T and U installed on the same axis of a gas turbine W which is coupled with an air compressor Z and with an electrical generator 84, between turbocompressor S, T and U being inserted some coolers g and h, the turbocompressor U being connected through a conduit 97 with a methane liquid tank V provided with a laminate valve j, between the extractor R and the tank V being placed an ejector m in which the suction is realized through a conduit 107 trough which is brought the methane gas from compressor S.